



EVERY TUESDAY

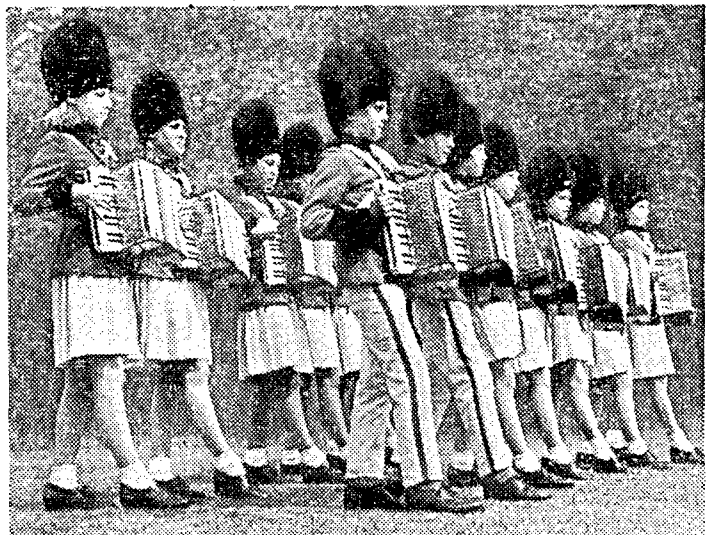
CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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PRICE THREEPENCE

BAND OF TOY SOLDIERS



The famous toy soldier band of Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, disbanded during the war, has been re-formed, and here we see the piano-accordion section rehearsing.

THE GIANT EYE IS READY Mount Palomar's 200-Inch Reflector

THE polishing of the new 200-inch reflector for the telescope at Mount Palomar, Pasadena, California, is now completed. When it is installed, this new giant eye, which is accurate to within one millionth part of an inch, will make the Mount Palomar telescope the most powerful in the world, for the present world's biggest telescope, that at Mount Wilson in California, has a reflector 100 inches in diameter.

The CN some time ago described the wonders of the making of this 200-inch reflector out of 20 tons of molten glass. The work, begun in 1934, was interrupted by the war and not resumed until 1945.

The new 200-inch reflector will make the Moon appear to be only 25 miles from the Earth, and it may solve the mystery of the strange markings on the planet Mars, at one time thought to be "canals." It will also reveal, by photographs, sources of light 1000 million light-years distant, compared with the 500

million light-years within the range of the 100-inch Mount Wilson telescope. It will probably reveal 500 million new stars, and it may prove or disprove the theory that the Universe is "expanding."

The new reflector should be installed in the telescope by next September, but the telescope's mechanism, as well as the reflector, will have to be tested, so that man's next exploration of the Universe will probably not begin until January.

This new giant telescope will do its work by taking photographs—some scientists say it should be called a giant camera—so the astronomer will not sit at its base looking through it. Instead, together with the photographic plate, he will be in a cartridge-shaped house projecting slightly beyond the top of the telescope tube.

Although the Mount Palomar telescope will weigh nearly 500 tons a mere two pounds of pressure will be enough to move its delicate mechanism.

The Not-So-Dead Sea

REPRESENTATIVES of the United Nations have been seeing for themselves that the "impossible" of one age may become the accomplished fact of another.

They have been inspecting cultivated areas of the Dead Sea Valley, hitherto regarded as barren and sterile beyond hope, owing to the nature of the soil, which contains some 17 degrees of salt. But skilled and resolute Jewish cultivators there now manage to grow cloves, flowers, and tomatoes, with foodstuffs for their animals—not in huge quantities, for the workers are few, but sufficient to prove that even such an arid waste as this can be made productive by science and persistence.

The Dead Sea and its surroundings, nearly 1300 feet below normal sea level, are among the strangest places on earth. The almost lifeless sea is so bitterly briny that fresh-water fish, carried into it from rivers, float dead on its surface, while even salt-water fish slowly die; and so buoyant are its waters that a man cannot sink in them.

From the Jordan and other sources the Dead Sea receives daily more than half-a-million tons of water, but so great is evaporation that the volume never increases. Local tradition identifies the area as that of the Bible's Cities of the Plain, and the Arabs always call the water the Sea of Lot.

Paul Jones Led Us a Pretty Dance

THE SCOTTISH-BORN SAILOR WHO FOUGHT THE ENGLISH

JUST two centuries ago—on July 6, 1747, at Kirkcubright in Kirkcudbrightshire—was born a boy destined to command the first American naval vessel accorded a salute by warships of a foreign power and, indeed, to become the virtual founder of the American Navy. His name was John Paul Jones, familiar to everyone because of the dance, the Paul Jones, which he introduced at the French Court.

"I have not yet begun to fight," is the bold legend inscribed on an American naval ship which bears the name of John Paul Jones. That was the reply given to a British officer by this famous naval adventurer when called upon to surrender his ship after a murderous engagement with a heavy British man-o-war. At the time his shattered vessel was sinking, but, undaunted by the apparent hopelessness of his plight, Jones led a boarding party onto the deck of his opponent, and after a sharp fight, turned defeat into a brilliant victory.

Such an action was typical of John Paul, a Scottish gardener's son, who at the age of 13, sailed from Whitehaven on board the Friendship, bound for Virginia.

Determined to rise in the world, he soon mastered the art of seamanship and navigation, while he used his leisure time to read widely and to study foreign languages. He remained at sea for several years, including some time spent in the slave trade and in smuggling, but in 1773 he settled on an estate in Virginia, assuming at this time the name by which he is known in the history books—John Paul Jones.

Sailor on Horseback

These were the bitter years of growing conflict between Britain and her American Colonies, and when war broke out in 1776, Paul Jones at once offered his services to the American cause.

When, in 1777, the Americans won a victory at Saratoga, Paul Jones, in command of the Ranger, was despatched to France with the news. With superb seamanship, he forced his ship through terrific seas to Nantes, and then completed the 260 miles to Paris on horseback.

After a short stay there, he decided to carry the fight into the enemy's camp, and made a daring but unsuccessful attack on Whitehaven.

Nettled at his failure, Jones immediately sailed to the familiar scenes of his boyhood in Kirkcudbright Bay with the intention of kidnapping the Earl of Selkirk from his residence on St Mary's Isle and holding him as a hostage. Unfortunately, the earl was not there when they landed on the island. The seamen plundered the earl's house, but Jones, with that touch of gallantry which remained with him to the end, bought the articles back from his men and returned them later to Lady Selkirk with a polite letter of apology.

On the return journey, he encountered the British 20-gun sloop, Drake, which he captured after a terrific struggle, returning to France with his prize.

The Ranger returned to America, and Jones had to wait until the French King could provide him with another vessel. This proved to be the Bonhomme Richard, on board of which Jones fought his greatest battle—against the British warship Serapis, off Flamborough Head. While anxious crowds watched the struggle from the Head, the two vessels literally fought themselves to a standstill. Eventually

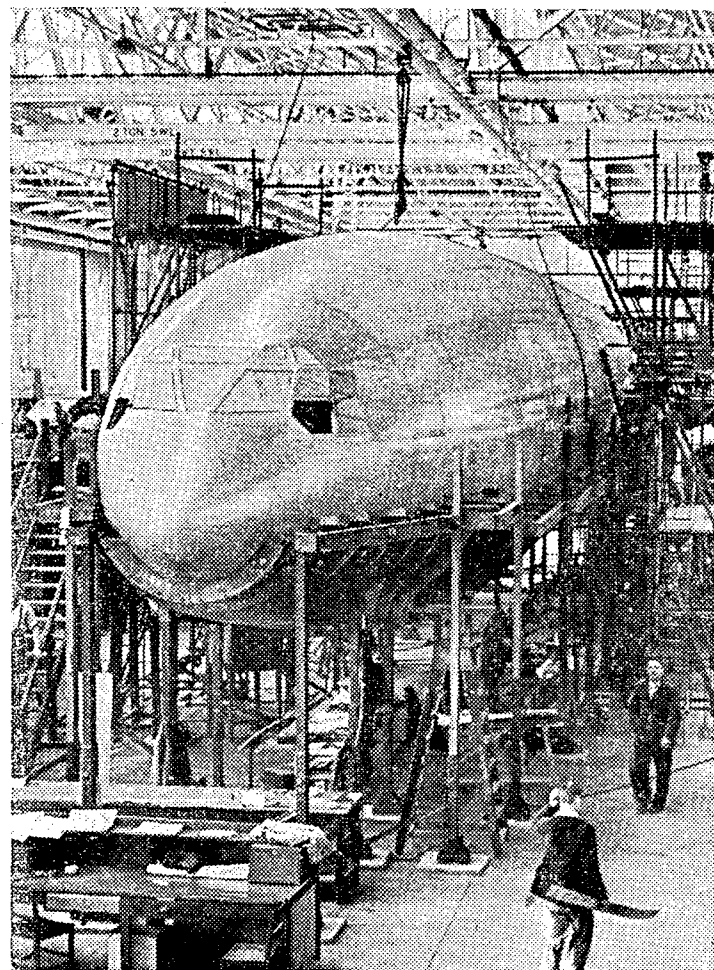


the Serapis surrendered, but not before the Bonhomme Richard had been damaged beyond repair. Indeed she sank soon after Jones had transferred his own crew on board his prize!

The war ended soon afterwards, and Paul Jones settled in France to try his fortune there. No command was forthcoming from the French Navy, however, and when Jones received an invitation from Catharine the Great of Russia to become a Rear-Admiral in the Russian Black Sea Fleet, he gladly accepted. But, although he fought bravely against the Turks at the Battle of Liman, he was discredited by intriguing rivals, and left the service of the Empress to return to France.

About this time he visited London, and it is pleasing to learn that his former enemies gave him an enthusiastic reception. It is recorded that he once walked into Lloyd's, and when recognised, was mobbed by a wildly cheering crowd. His health was giving way, however, and he lay dying in Paris in 1792 as revolutionary France was already preparing for war. Had he lived it is just possible that he might have fought against Lord Nelson at Trafalgar!

A WHALE OF A PLANE



Looking like a huge whale, the fuselage of the world's largest aeroplane, the 130-ton Brabazon, nears completion in the Bristol Aeroplane Company's factory at Filton.

CRITICAL DAYS IN FRANCE

IN France the Government is making strenuous efforts to revive the prosperity of the people. Steps which France takes at home and abroad are of great importance to us, not only because the French are our nearest neighbours across the Channel, but also because we are linked with them by common interests in Africa, Asia, Oceania, and in America.

The French Parliament has been debating a drastic austerity budget which aims at saving France from financial and economic collapse.

What, we may ask, is the trouble with French economy?

During the war France lost through bombing, and through sabotage done by her own patriots, a vast wealth in factories, railways, and ports.

This, however, is only one of the reasons for the economic crisis. Like Britain, France had to sell, during the war, most of her overseas investments in order to get the money for munitions, and so she has very few sources of dollars or pounds sterling which could now buy machines, locomotives, and building materials to repair the damage and to develop the country.

But this is not all. French economists had been complaining before the war that their country's factories were not up to modern standards and that their products could not compete on the international markets with those of Britain or America. They also said that many French industrialists and business people had lost their spirit of enterprise and had not tried hard enough to improve their goods.

A Plan For Prosperity

To put things right, the French Government asked a great economist, Jean Monnet, to work out a plan of salvation. Towards the end of last year M. Monnet presented his plan. In it he warned his countrymen that shortages are likely to last until 1950, but he stated his hope that if all her efforts were concentrated on improving the work in six "basic" sectors—coal, electricity, steel, cement, agricultural machinery, and trans-

The United Nations and Greece

THE United Nations Commission which for 16 weeks this year investigated the disturbed conditions on the frontiers of Greece has made its report.

Eight of the eleven members of the Commission hold the view that Yugoslavia, and to a lesser extent Bulgaria and Albania, have supported armed bands operating in Greek territory. The Commission's main proposal is that the Security Council should aim at developing a code of frontier conduct.

THE GIFT

DR RUTH FRAZER of North Walsham, Norfolk, is planning to send back to India the wonderful sari (Indian woman's dress) studded with diamonds which was given to her by the people she worked for during plague and famine as a medical missionary in India before 1912.

The dress has uncut diamonds along its top and bottom and is said to be worth £50,000. Dr Frazer now wants it to be used to raise money to build a hospital for Untouchables.

port—France would again become a great and rich nation.

Each of these tasks is in itself a gigantic undertaking, but the success of the whole plan undoubtedly depends on the country's ability to get coal. France has always bought a lot of coal from Britain and Germany. Unfortunately, neither Britain nor Germany can now supply her with more than a fraction of the coal she needs.

Coal is the Key

True, France has already done well in raising the output of her own coal mines. But even with her maximum output of 50 million tons a year she would still not have enough coal to keep all her steel and cement mills and all her locomotives going. As in Britain, coal is the key to French recovery. To get coal and machinery, which have to be bought mostly in America, France must obtain enough dollars—and these she cannot have until she exports enough goods to the U.S.

One way to break this vicious circle is to borrow sufficient dollars in the U.S. This is why France is so keen to take advantage of the Marshall offer.

This, of course, is not the whole picture of the French crisis. While the Monnet Plan is slowly but surely being carried out, new obstacles appear in the path of France. The rising prices of food, a cut in the bread ration, and, as their consequence, widespread strikes of workers who say they cannot live on their small wages, add new worries for the French Government.

Yet France is not losing her faith in herself and her allies. She knows that working together with her wartime comrades-in-arms she will eventually overcome all difficulties.

THE COAL MINE IN THE PLAYGROUND

IT is to be hoped that when the shaft of an old coal mine was recently discovered under the concrete of a Glasgow school playground, the head teacher was not taking a class. For it would have been hard for the pupils to restrain their excitement when the official walked in to announce:

"There is a coal mine in your playground."

Some head teachers would have retorted: "Then take it away at once."

But coal is precious stuff these days and the coal mine at the Calder Street Junior Secondary School is being worked. Of course, the hole torn in the concrete is penned off to prevent any pupil from starting as a miner before his schooldays are over.

Part of a school cloak-room, too, has been removed to allow a crane, which now adds to the gaiety of school life in Calder Street, to work in freedom.

It remains to be seen whether this school colliery will add to our coal stocks. We may forgive the head teacher for being sceptical about it.

Sixty Years of "Fed"

SIXTY years of fine work is the proud record of the London Federation of Boys' Clubs, affectionately known by its members as "Fed."

At first "Fed" comprised about 28 clubs. By the end of 1946 the number had increased to over 260, with about 17,000 members. It was started in 1887 by a group of men from various boys' clubs—including Eton, Harrow, and Trinity Missions—who were determined to lead boys into a life of purpose and happiness.

This year "Fed" is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee right royally, with a fine programme of sporting and other events, some of which have already taken place. On Wednesday this week there is to be a Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Readers of the CN will remember the epic story, told by the Prime Minister, of the founding in a German prison camp of a Brunswick Boy's Club. "Fed" hopes that a Brunswick Club at Fulham, London, will be opened later this year.

"Fed" works in close co-operation with the National Association of Boys' Clubs. It is appealing for help in developing still further its good work. The headquarters are at 222 Blackfriars Road, Southwark, London, SE1.

FOR THE COMMON GOOD

The passages which follow are from a message to the peoples of the United Nations by Mr Trygve Lie, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter at San Francisco.

ON the basis of our short experience, during a most difficult period in international relations, I think we can say that the nations are able to work effectively on the principle of individual sovereignty for the common good. . . . Our machinery is still rusty in places and we must be prepared to convert it to new needs as time goes on and new problems arise. But we can all take encouragement from the fact that our organisation is now completed.

Chewing by Order

"ARE you still chewing your chewing-gum? What, you've none left? Here's another piece for you!"

If we heard our teacher say that most of us would think we were dreaming, or that she was being heavily sarcastic.

But something like this has been happening in a schoolroom at Edge Hill, Liverpool, where Graham Hoggarth, aged seven, has to chew and keep on chewing by order because he has a stiff lower jaw that needs exercise. He was left with a stiff jaw as the result of an accident nearly two years ago when he was knocked down by a bus which mounted the footpath.

If his schoolfellows sometimes feel a little envious of him they remember that he has borne with fortitude much suffering as a result of the accident which was no fault of his.

WORLD NEWS REEL

SNAKE'S SNACK. When H.M.S. Bermuda brought home two giant pythons from the Far East for the London Zoo recently, it was expected that the snakes would remain asleep during the voyage. One woke up, however, and became restive, and it had to be fed before it would resume its nap.

At a political conference of people from Goa (Portuguese India), a resolution was passed calling on the Portuguese Government to hand over power to elected representatives of the people in Portuguese India.

The people of Aden sent recently to Princess Elizabeth, as a 21st birthday present, two pairs of pearls obtained by native divers off Kamaran Island, at the southern end of the Red Sea.

BIBLE IN 46 SECONDS. A new radio communication system developed by the Radio Corporation of America can send a million words a minute.

The population of the Argentine has more than doubled in 33 years. The present population is more than 16,000,000; the population in 1914 was 7,900,000.

BRITAIN LED. In the Senior (500 cc) International Motor Cycle Race over the Brussels Bois de la Chambre circuit recently, British riders were first, second, and third.

HOME NEWS REEL

AIRPORT RAILWAY. To handle petrol and stores, the Southern Railway plans to establish a siding at London Airport.

During the first six weeks of the domestic fuel economy campaign 270,000 tons of coal were saved.

The Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital at Cliveden, Canada's gift to Britain, has been officially opened.

WELCOME BACK. Rex Palmer, who was Uncle Rex of the Children's Hour in the early days of the BBC, has been re-engaged by the BBC as a temporary announcer for the Light programmes. He originally joined the BBC in 1922, and was one of the first five regular announcers.

When the National Insurance scheme comes into operation next year gipsies and tramps will have to contribute (4s 8d a week for a man, and 2s 9d a week for a youth under 18) unless they can prove an income not over £104 a year.

A Peacock moth found at Doncaster not long ago was six inches wide.

LIFEBOAT GIRL. When Jacqueline Whitehead, aged 13, saw her father's yacht capsize off Chichester, she sailed to his rescue in a small boat and threw a rope to him.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

SAILING ACROSS. Picked crews of Sea Scouts will man two 20-ton yawls and sail from England to France up the River Seine to an island alongside the main camp at the World Jamboree. Sea Scouts of many nations will camp on this island and give displays and demonstrations of sailing and boat work.

The Scout Gilt Cross has been awarded to two Malayan Scouts, Troop Leader Hooi Leng Tuck and Second Ooi Boon Ewe of the 1st Penang Troop. While acting as roof spotters during a heavy Japanese air raid in 1914, both were

The British Government have decided to make a gift to Rumania of £10,000 worth of medical supplies in view of the widespread disease caused by the recent drought.

India's first Ambassador to the Soviet Union is Mrs Vijaya-lakshmi Pandit, sister of Pandit Nehru.

GOOD NEWS FOR AUSTRIA. The U.S. is to pay the costs of its Army of Occupation in Austria. These costs were formerly supported by Austria. Thus, the American soldiers in Austria virtually become tourists, spending their dollars in the occupied country. The Austrian Government should receive about twenty million dollars a year by this means.

Dr Sjahrir, Premier of the Indonesian Republic of Java and Sumatra, has tendered his resignation following the rejection by the main Republican parties of his concessions to the Dutch.

From July 1 no visas will be required by persons travelling from Britain to Iceland or by any Icclander visiting Britain.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S FUTURE. Representatives of Canada and Newfoundland have met at Ottawa to discuss the proposal for a federal union between the two countries. If they agree, Newfoundland may become the tenth province of Canada.

The Whitby boat, Success, recently caught a shark weighing two-and-a-half tons.

At Hove, in Sussex, a Roman settlement has been unearthed by workmen who were digging for a housing site.

WARE CABLES. While on a picnic at Ewhurst in Surrey, recently, a girl of 13 climbed a tree and touched an 11,000-volt electric cable. She was killed instantly.

When the last stone was laid on the top of the 230-foot-high Bell Harry Tower of Canterbury Cathedral, the two little daughters of the Dean of Canterbury climbed up the ladders with their father. The choir also climbed up to sing, and buglers of the Buffs sounded fanfares.

German prisoners-of-war in Britain are to draw part of their pay in English money. They are also to be allowed to use shops, cinemas, restaurants, and public transport within five miles of camp.

Gillian Townsend, 12 years old, has been appointed organist of Knaith St Mary's Church, near Gainsborough.

Holborn Borough Council is making a sympathy loan of £50,000 to the hard-hit Borough of Poplar.

burned and injured but they refused to leave their posts until ordered to do so.

The Boys Brigade have a Company and Team of Life Boys at the Victoria Leprosy Hospital at Dichpali in South India.

SCOUTS AT SCHOOL. Now in camp at Gilwell Park, Chingford, are 233 Boy Scouts from New Zealand who are to attend the World Jamboree in France in August. Some of them will be away from home for six months, but their education is not being neglected, for three school-teachers have come with them.

Danes Come to Greenwich

A LINK with the past was forged one day recently, when a party of Danish students visited Greenwich. Centuries ago the Danish Vikings sailed up the broad Thames and landed on this spot. They built a village there and called it Greenvik, or "green town."

In those days, lush water meadows lay along the banks of the river. Gloomy warehouses stand over the water now, and cranes swing out from the dock-side into the holds of merchant ships. But the grass is still green in the park below the old Observatory.

The Danes were architectural students visiting England at the invitation of the Architectural Association, and among other places they visited were Windsor and Cambridge. To Greenwich the visitors went in a launch from Westminster and down the Thames through the busy heart of London's dockland.

Girl Aircraft Designer

GILLIAN LUCY STURTON, aged 18, of Llandudno, is the first girl ever to pass the apprentice examination at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

When Gillian left school she became a temporary clerk in the Inland Revenue, but she found the work dull. For she dreamed of becoming an aircraft designer—an ambition generally thought to be exclusive to boys.

Now she will have five years of study of aircraft engineering, and afterwards will have the chance of doing research work on supersonic aircraft—planes that fly faster than sound.

Gillian has other interests as well as designing aeroplanes, however. At school she was captain of the second hockey team, and she describes her hobbies as "hiking and biking."

THE TERRIER AND THE TERROR

SOME children were paddling at Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, when suddenly they saw a particularly big fish approaching. They quickly scattered.

Terry, a fox terrier, saw the visitor, too, and, deciding that some action was called for, promptly seized the fish by the tail and dragged it ashore.

The monster proved to be a five-foot-long tope, a small shark found in most of the tropical and temperate seas.

At Greenwich they visited Inigo Jones's masterpiece of architecture, Queen's House. In the Maritime Museum they saw relics of the Battle of Copenhagen, in which Nelson outfought the Danes. They were shown over the wonderful library where the shorthand letters of Samuel Pepys, the diarist, and Secretary to the Admiralty in the reign of James the Second, are preserved.

The Royal Naval College was thrown open to the Danish visitors, and they were able to see the famous Painted Hall, and the chapel where stands the organ once played by Handel, the remains of the ancient Tudor palace in the vaults of the present building.

Their visit was less exciting than that of their ancestors centuries before: but they take back to Denmark a living knowledge of the proud maritime traditions of England.

A HAVEN BY THE SEA

SUNDERLAND Corporation has set aside part of Seaburn foreshore for the use of parties of blind and other aged and infirm people who find it difficult to organise outings to other places. A lawn just off the sands will be prepared for their special use and every facility given for them to reach the spot in comfort and enjoy the surroundings.

The Old New Boy

A SCENE something like this occurred in a Brazilian school not long ago. "What's the name of that new pupil at the back of the class?" asked the short-sighted master.

"He's Pedro Oliveira, sir," answered Tonio, the Know-All of the Form.

"I'm not asking you; let him speak for himself."

"Pedro Oliveira is right."

"And how old are you, Pedro?"

"I shall be 113 next birthday."

Pedro was not trying to be funny; it was just that he had been a bit absent-minded about attending school. For Senhor Pedro Oliveira, aged 112, the oldest student in the world, has decided it is time he learned to read, and he has been attending one of the new schools for illiterate adults in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

As we stated in the CN recently, it is, indeed, never too late to learn.

YESTERDAY & TODAY

This is the first of a new CN series of traditional costumes that are still worn.

A Sword-Bearer

At the annual ceremony of electing the new Sheriffs of the City of London at Guild-



hall the other day, one of the most striking figures was the Sword-bearer. He and other Corporation officials in their colourful robes each carried a posy of old English flowers, and the hall was strewn with sweet herbs—customary precaution since the Great Plague.

A CHANCE TO BE AN AMBASSADOR

INCREASED opportunities for young people to enter a diplomatic career are offered by recent changes in Britain's Foreign Service.

A Branch B has been created which young men and women between 17 and 19½ may join by passing the normal Civil Service examinations. From this Branch they will have the chance of rising by merit to the senior Branch A, from which our Ambassadors and other leading diplomatic figures are chosen. Previously only those with high academic distinctions have been able to join the senior branch.

The new Branch B will consist of about 1500 officers and will be divided into six grades.

Special Money For Schoolboys

THE latest report of the Committee of Public Accounts shows that after illegal dealings in currency by our military forces in Europe during 1945-46 had cost British taxpayers over 49 million pounds sterling, a special voucher scheme was introduced, which checked this costly financial lawlessness.

Similar payment by token was long current in England, especially to agricultural workers. Instead of money, a stamped metal disc or other emblem was handed to the wage-earner, who exchanged it for goods from the local shops. But there was also a famous London school, the Bluecoat (Christ's Hospital), that once had its own specially-coined money. The ordinary cash used elsewhere could not

be accepted at the school, and the scholar handed over his shillings and pence to one of the beadies, who were the official money-changers of the establishment.

In exchange for these pieces of national money the beadie would hand back the requisite number of special eight-sided copper pieces, each stamped with its value. These coins, and these alone, served in the school tuck-shop. Money from the Mint would not pass at the school; money from the school would not pass anywhere beyond the Bluecoat walls. Needless to say, these old school tokens, long since disused, are worth today vastly greater sums than their original face value, for collectors prize them.

Mapping No Man's Land

THE crew of the Lincoln bomber which mapped Australia's new rocket range have seen more of one of Australia's most inhospitable areas than any other men.

The range, which stretches from a point some 400 miles north-west of Adelaide to the coastline along Western Australia between Broome and Derby, is about 200 miles wide and 1120 miles long. The bomber crew took 7860 stereoscopic photographs of the area in a little over six weeks.

The range includes country over which no white man has ever travelled. It is a waste land, and its mysteries are known perhaps only to a few aboriginal nomads. Explorer after explorer has tried to penetrate the region, but the stubborn dryness and unrelenting sun have driven them back. The survey party conducted three parallel flights, 12 miles apart, at a height of 2000 feet.

CARDBOARD DOORS

A FRIEND in Denmark tells us that the Danes, too, have a housing shortage, and are building a "prefab" estate in Copenhagen. Like us, they have had to improvise, for they are just as short of timber and cement.

They are making extensive use of a light concrete in which wood shavings and scraps are used instead of the more usual ballast or clinker. They have also perfected a door made of cardboard covered with a thin veneer of polished wood; and, indeed, they claim that the only fitting in their houses which is really made of valuable timber is the kitchen table!

NOW THEY ARE POLES APART

THE other day the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons entertained the Company of Barber-Surgeons.

Up to about 200 years ago barbers were also surgeons; they extracted aching teeth, performed minor operations, and did blood-letting, then regarded as the cure for many ills.

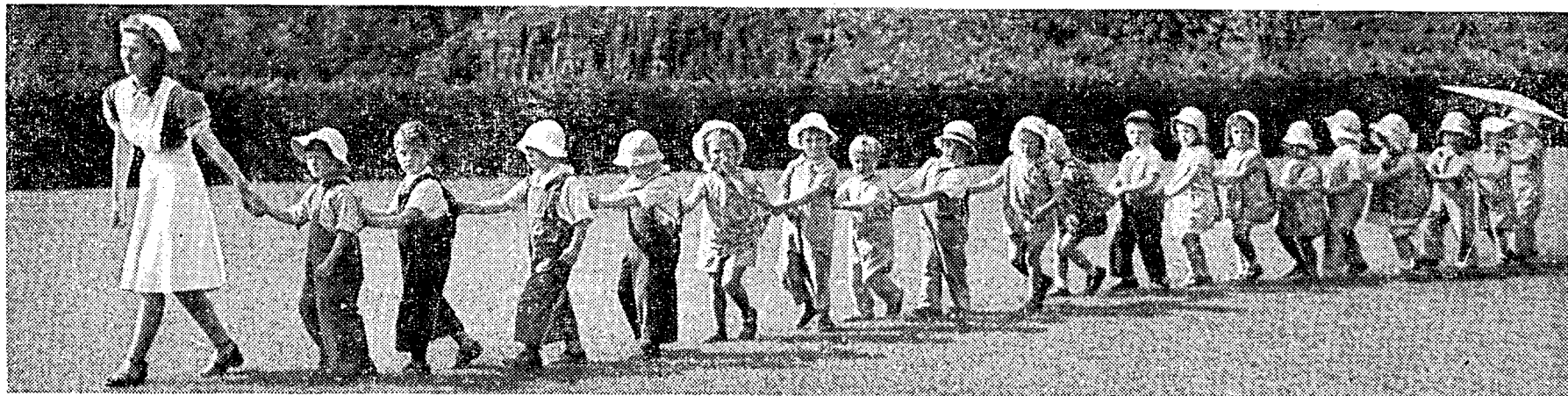
The barber's pole, with its red and white bands, remains a familiar relic, the white representing the bandages which the barber-surgeon used to bind round the wounds made by his lancet when blood-letting.

Now, barbers and surgeons are "poles apart." Yet the old partnership has not been forgotten, either by the barbers or the surgeons.

Cycle Race Finished on Foot

IT often happens that a speedway rider's machine breaks down during the last lap of a race, and to secure points for his side, the rider pushes his machine past the finishing post.

Something similar happened in an important cycle race recently. The riders had nearly completed the 55-mile course in the Isle of Man Bicycle T.T., an arduous, gruelling race, when one of them, S. Edwards of Norwich, crashed, by the roadside. He was then a mile from the finishing post, but, determined to complete the course, he lifted the smashed machine on his back and ran the rest of the way. His courage and fortitude enabled him to gain the fifth prize.



QUEUE FOR SUNSHINE—Nurse leads the "crocodile" at a day nursery at Clifton, Bristol



Come to the Cookhouse Door, Boys

At the training centre of the Army Catering Corps at Aldershot boys of 14 or 15 take a three-year course before entering the service as men. In addition to learning all branches of their trade and becoming good soldiers, education goes on to School Certificate standard. The boys will eventually qualify as NCO instructors, with the best of them taking a commission in the ACC.

UNDERWATER UNDERGROUND

LAST week we described the exploration by some daring Frenchmen of an underground abyss in Savoy; now there comes news of English explorers discovering caves in the Mendips Hills in Somerset.

Near Stoke Lane, a village four miles north-east of Shepton Mallet, members of the Bristol Exploration Club, after an adventurous subterranean journey, recently found a large cavern with stalactites, 12 and 15 feet long, hanging from its roof. As in other famous caverns of the Mendips, like those of Wookey Hole, this chamber is very impressive.

The adventure started when Mr Pat Brown, of Frome, was moving boulders in a small cave. Suddenly he came upon a hole in the floor. He climbed down into a passage, which he followed for about 200 feet until it ended in a pool of water about five feet deep.

He reported his find, and a party, including a well-known cave-explorer from London, Mr F. G. Balcombe, continued the exploration. The water seemed to bar further progress, but on

entering it someone found, below the surface, an archway. This seemed the way ahead, underwater, underground! Someone held his breath, ducked and groped his way through—wondering how far he would have to go and whether he could hold his breath long enough. On the other side he came to the surface and found himself in another cave.

One by one, his companions joined him. From the new cave ran an underground river about five feet wide. This they followed until it opened into a chamber 35 feet high. They passed through this and then came to the cavern, which was a grotesque fairyland of stalactites.

They saw more passages, leading from this cavern, but these they left to be examined on a later visit.

Curiously, the further exploration of these caves has depended on the weather, for the party found signs that the underground river is liable to flooding. A cloudburst outside might cause the subterranean water to rise rapidly, endangering the lives of the explorers.

Warwick and Its Treasures

SIR PATRICK ABERCROMBIE, the well-known town-planner, wants the town of Warwick to become the cultural centre of the Midlands. He has prepared a scheme whereby developments of the town would preserve all its essential historic atmosphere; and recently there was a week's exhibition at Warwick of the maps, plans, and photographs illustrating his proposals.

Of this ancient town Arthur Mee wrote in his King's England: "Not in all England are more historic interest and beauty crowded into so small a space. He who would see England in an hour or two had better go to Warwick." He called it "the county town of the Shakespeare Country."

Sir Walter Scott described Warwick's castle as: "that fairest monument of ancient and

chivalrous splendour which yet remains uninjured by time."

In Warwick's Church of St Mary is the famous Beauchamp Chapel which enshrines the exquisitely-carved tomb of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, who represented England at the trial of Joan of Arc.

Warwick Grammar School dates from the time of Edward the Confessor, and one of its boys was John Masefield.

Sir Patrick Abercrombie wants St John's House, a fine gabled building of James the First's time, and now used as an Army records office, to become a regional centre for music, the arts, and social activities.

Let us hope Sir Patrick's advice will be followed and the Midlands' treasure-town become a centre of inspiration for the people's life.

St Pancras Shows the Way

ST PANCRAS, in London, is a go-ahead borough, and it has now started a periodical devoted to the cultural activities organised by the Borough Council and the Arts and Civic Council. The St Pancras Journal is edited by the Borough Librarian, Mr Frederick Sinclair, and it will give news about concerts, exhibitions, discussion clubs, reading circles, lectures, and new books in the borough libraries.

Appropriately, on the cover of the first number is a portrait of one of the most famous residents of the borough, George Bernard Shaw, and inside is an article about the great playwright with several witty corrections and amendments by GBS himself. Fifty years ago George Bernard Shaw became a member of the St Pancras "Vestry", as the local council was then called, and in his writings he has often alluded to his experiences in that somewhat primitive form of local government. Last October, St Pancras made him its first honorary Freeman.

The St Pancras Journal—like every self-respecting periodical—has a Children's Corner, and from this we learn that the borough has no fewer than five children's libraries. Another one is to be opened shortly.

The journal costs twopence—one penny for children in St Pancras. May it prosper!

YOUNG SUSSEX

By the CN Sportsman

A SCHEME to discover and develop cricketing talent in young men under eighteen has been originated by the Sussex Cricket Association. Schools and clubs throughout the county have been requested to nominate promising young players.

On July 29, some 120 of these nominated players will be put through their paces at Hove and other grounds by Sussex professionals. Those who impress the selectors will take part in a trial match on the following day.

The team finally chosen will receive expert coaching and will take part in a tour of the North and Midlands during August. The Young Amateurs of Sussex they will be called.

It is estimated that the whole tour will not exceed more than £4 for each person, but if this sum is too high assistance will be given to any player needing it.

Congratulations



A poster of Scotland won the first prize of a £50 holiday voucher and a special merit award of £10 for Miss Gwendolen Knaggs of Luton. She is here being greeted by Lord Hacking, chairman of the Travel Association, who organised the "Youth Looks at Britain" competition.

The Editor's Table

THE NOBLEST OFFER

ALL the world is watching with hope and expectancy the comings and goings of statesmen as they meet to discuss the noblest offer ever made by one continent to another—America's offer to help stricken Europe.

Europe, mother of Western culture and civilisation, is mortally wounded; two devastating wars have brought a weakness which cannot be cured without outside help. Across the Atlantic is the New World—its peoples largely drawn from old Europe—prosperous, productive, and at the height of its power.

LOOKING on at Europe's sufferings, America sees hope only if certain things are done. Money, she knows, is not enough unless Europe is prepared to re-order her ways and re-shape her life. The old continent is really one big country split into several separate countries, each trying to run its own life. Think of yourselves as one land, says America; think of your coalfields, your industries, your transport, and all the ways by which you live as belonging to one land. Although you are separated by frontiers, there are some things for the common good of all which you can do much better by working together.

This getting-together will mean deep, even disturbing, changes in Europe's ways, and in the lives of her 350 million people; but its object is to help the stricken continent to produce more for the rest of the world to use, and to give her people a higher standard of life. It will mean Europe thinking of herself as one community, one family, one continent for the first time in history.

MR ANTHONY EDEN has called the American offer to aid Europe worthy to stand beside "the most unsordid act in history"—Mr Churchill's description of the wartime Lend-Lease plan. It is a sign of America's concern for the continent from which she herself derives most of her culture and civilisation. But a weakened, decayed Europe means a lamed and handicapped life for all the world. America sees all this; and sees also that it is not yet too late for "the New World to come in and redress the balance of the Old." New voices call across the Atlantic and powerful hands and resources are stretched forth to help.

NEVER before in history has one continent offered to go to the help of another in such a way as this. America has made a truly noble gesture, an offer which can mean new life and hope for Europe's anxious millions. But it is dependent on Europe rising above national jealousies and suspicions and setting out in full unity of purpose, resolved to tread the pathway of recovery.

That Extra Quarter

WE shall be able to buy more sweets between August 17 and October 11—five instead of four ounces a week. This makes up for the sweet cut due to the fuel crisis, and there is always special satisfaction in recovering what we have lost.

Soon many boys and girls will be faced with the problem of what extra sweets they can buy. But all too frequently, we fear, the answer will be the usual one—just what the shopkeeper happens to have in stock.

Never mind. An extra quarter of sweets a month for two months will be worth having.

MAKING UP FOR LOST TIME

IT is in times of crisis that the men on our farms show their mettle. An example of this was given recently when, with newspapers full of five-day weeks and unofficial strikes, the farm workers were not only putting in a full week but in many cases were working over 70 hours for weeks on end. These men know, better than anyone, how vital it is that the loss of time caused by the severe winter and the floods should be caught up; and they know also that the land will not wait.

A token of their realisation of the nation's need comes in an appeal from their Trade Union, calling on every member to do his utmost to increase production "so that hunger and famine may not defeat the Government's efforts to make this country and its people really great and prosperous."

Well, the farm workers need no spurring. They will make the extra effort, happy to prove their worth in time of their country's great need.

JUST AN IDEA

As Rousseau wrote, *Man's two best physicians are Temperance and Labour.*

Under the E



PETER PUCK
WANTS TO KNOW

How many sleeves
has a coat of arms

A CERTAIN town is said to have a growing population. Must be all children.

A WRITER has been running mountains down. But they stick up for themselves.

COLD drinks couldn't be obtained in Paris because of a strike of the ice company employees. Everyone got hot about it.

ALWAYS sleep on a difficult problem. But it is not so comfortable as a mattress.

CHILDREN should be encouraged to collect things. Especially their thoughts.

THINGS SAID

FREEDOM of speech, freedom of conscience, and personal freedom is the right of the individual.

The Prime Minister

OUR aim—I am not saying we have reached it yet—is to make the State educational system and the State medical service better than anything that can be obtained privately.

Sir Hartley Shawcross

ALL the peoples must go forward together. I am convinced they will. This is the moment to make Europe.

M. Bidault, French Foreign Minister

THERE is a great need for additional facilities in this country for learning languages, including the main Asiatic languages and Russian.

Lord Harlech

WHAT the working man wants is four rooms and a room or the wife to wash the kids in—straight Jane and no nonsense.

Sir H. Selley, President of the Federation of Master Builders

Our Bonny Babies

MR BEVAN, Minister of Health, paid a tribute to modern mothers when he spoke recently at the international conference on maternity and child welfare at the Friends' House, Euston Road, London.

He said, among other things: "The improved vitality and bonniness of babies is also due to the higher standard of infant care brought about by propaganda and the intelligent devotion of modern mothers."

In this vital matter of infant welfare, Education pays us as rich dividends as it does in other spheres.

A FELICITY

THE greatest pleasure I know is to do a good action by stealth, and to have it found out by accident.

Charles Lamb

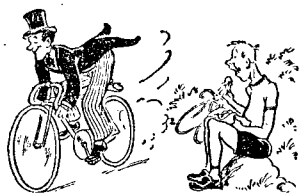
Editor's Table

A FATHER wants to find a good post for his literary daughter. He should put her on the staff of a newspaper.

SOLES for sandals are coupon free. And you don't wait in the fish queue for them.

OLD people like to remember the past on their birthday. Young ones are more concerned with the present.

A BABY usually has a sweet smile. And a sweet tooth.



A CYCLIST wants to know what to wear when he goes for a spin. A top hat?

Farewell to the Squire

THE passing of that traditional figure in English country life, the Squire, was referred to in dignified terms by Viscount Bledisloe in the House of Lords recently when he welcomed the new Agriculture Bill.

He said this measure would mark the virtual extinction, except as a factor in food production, of the class of country squires to which he and his forbears belonged. "But I recognise reluctantly," he continued, "that vital national needs must take precedence over claims of any section of the body politic—however deserving."

Viscount Bledisloe comes of a long line of country squires. He is descended from the famous Bathurst family who are said to have first become leaders in English society when some Saxon invaders gave their name to Batters-hurst in Sussex.

The Bathursts have a long and distinguished record of public service in England. That Lord Bledisloe should praise a Bill that curtails the privileges of his order in the national interest is in the highest tradition of his illustrious ancestors. He has indeed lived up to his family motto, Tien Ta Foy—Hold thy Faith.

His attitude, too, is an example of our British genius for gradual and peaceful development in matters political, social, and economic.

NATURE AND ART

NATURE, a mother kind alike to all,

Still grants her bliss at Labour's earnest call;

With food as well the peasant is supplied

On Idra's cliffs as Arno's shelvy side;

And though the rocky-crested summits frown,

These rocks, by custom, turn to beds of down.

From Art more various are the blessings sent—

Wealth, commerce, honour, liberty, content.

Yet these each other's power so strong contest,

That either seems destructive of the rest.

Where wealth and freedom reign, contentment fails,

And honour sinks where commerce long prevails.

Hence every state to one loved blessing prone,

Conforms and models life to that alone.

Each to the favourite happiness attends,

And spurns the plan that aims at other ends;

Till, carried to excess in each domain,

This favourite good begets peculiar pain.

Resolution

FIRMNESS, both in sufferance and exertion, is a character I would wish to possess. I have always despised the whining yelp of complaint, and the cowardly feeble resolve.

Robert Burns

The Empire's Timber

THE requirements of war laid low vast tracts of forests, and representatives of Great Britain, the Dominions, India, Burma, and the Colonies have met to review the position, and to make the best possible plans for renewing the Empire's timber wealth.

In Great Britain the Forestry Commission's immediate object is to plant 500,000 acres, and replant 600,000 acres of felled woodland before 1965, the final aim being five million acres.

Canadian forests occupy over a third of the total land area of Canada, and the Dominions Forest Service is going ahead with research, aerial survey, and the study of new uses for wood and wood products. Four Canadian universities give degree courses in forestry, and new schools are being opened.

Australia is busy finding native woods to replace timber imports. South Africa intends to increase her forests from 760,000 to 1,260,000 acres in the next twenty-five years. India has plans to afforest large tracts of waste land, and to make herself self-supporting in timber and fuel. Every effort is also being made to restore ravaged Burma's wealth in timber.

Westward Ho!



When the Southern Railway's new holiday train made its first run from Waterloo "Sir Francis Drake" pointed out places of interest.

MECHANICAL MOLE

IT is reported from Russia that an engineer, Dr A. L. Trebelev, has invented a mechanical mole. It is a piloted machine for burrowing into the earth, and has already been successfully tested.

This mole, which is 16½ feet long and 4 wide, is worked by an electric motor, the power being supplied through a cable slowly unreeling from the machine as it travels through the earth. The pilot occupies a soil-tight chamber supplied with oxygen, and drives the machine like a tank. Through portholes he can see the nature of the soil and can phone details to the surface.

The machine first penetrates the soil by the powerful toothed drill at its pointed nose. Thereafter it burrows through the ground by means of jointed legs at the rear. They reach forward, digging into the sides of the burrow, and then push the whole machine forward, as they stretch, at 30 feet an hour.

PEACEMAKERS IN THE PRIMITIVE JUNGLE

PENETRATING into the inland country of New Guinea, the Revd H. A. Brown, of the London Missionary Society, has been on trek along the Kunimaipa River, a torrential stream which flows from the Owen Stanley Range.

This south-eastern section of the great island is still wrapped in primitive jungle and almost impenetrable scrubland, rising to the mountain foothills. It is the home of a people only a few years removed from cannibalism, and liable to outbreaks of savagery and superstition. Mr Brown has lived near them now for nine years, and last year he despatched a native teacher to establish a permanent mission-station.

Shower of Arrows

When the native teacher, Iliara, with his wife and four children, climbed up the grassy slopes just below the main village, they were sighted by the Komu men, who let fly a shower of arrows which wounded Iliara's leg and thigh. Coming nearer, the men asked whether they had dropped from the clouds, and then, seeing the children and the unarmed man, they bathed his wounds and took them all to the village.

Following his teacher's track into the mountain area, Mr Brown waded through the flooded river for three hours, carrying his pack on his shoulders, while a servant swam down the crocodile-infested stream to get a canoe. When he reached the foothills, Mr Brown heard a rumour that Iliara the teacher was dead. Floundering in flooded rivers and along the razor-like edges of the ravines, Mr Brown was buoyed up in hope because he could see through his field-glasses a freshly-built hut on a ridge and something white waving on the roof. He made a smoke-signal, but got no reply.

Leaving his baggage behind, Mr Brown and two men pushed on through the gorges at the base of Mount Turu. "It was a nerve-racking journey," he says, "for the steep side of the mountain is covered with loose stones. Yet this was the way Iliara, his wife, and four small children had gone."

Beyond the gorge into the open valley, Mr Brown approached

the village—a women's village, for in that primitive country the men and women live in separate villages. An old woman came out and led him to the top of the ridge, where he found the teacher and his family safe and sound.

Next day Mr Brown gathered the villagers to a meeting and urged them to put an end to fighting. Nine of the men volunteered to go down to the district officer and consult with him about one of them being trained as a policeman. It was a daring thing to do, for these men had never been away from their villages under the mountain before. It meant passing through a district where hidden bowmen shoot at strangers. In fact, one of the volunteers was pierced by arrows; he jumped into the river and was drowned.

When this news reached Iliara at home in his little house of peace in the hilltop village he wrote a note and had it passed secretly from village to village. It reached the district officer, who radioed it to his headquarters, where there was great astonishment that a Papuan and an Englishman had penetrated so far into the primitive interior and were ready to risk their lives to make peace among the tribes.

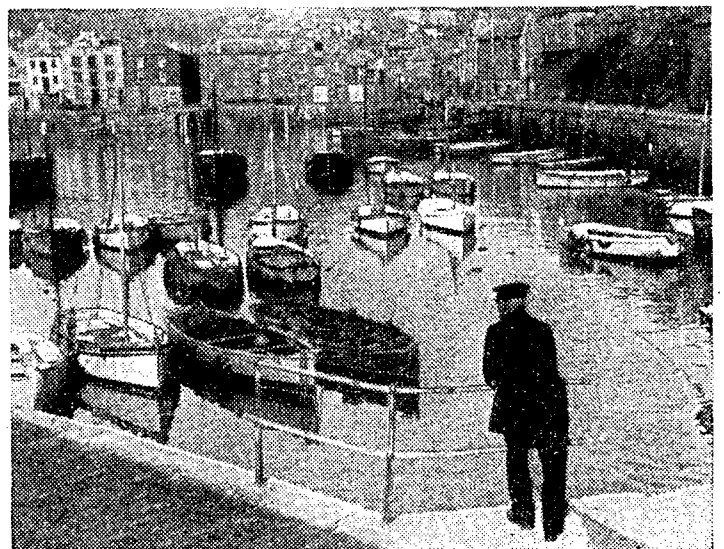
Ike's New Job

GENERAL EISENHOWER, affectionately known as Ike, whose organising genius steered the Allied forces to Victory in Europe, will soon be transferring his attentions to the peaceable cause of education.

Ike has resigned his position as America's soldier-in-chief, and has accepted the presidency of Columbia University, New York.

This great American university was founded as King's College in 1754. Among its many departments is a school of journalism, endowed by Joseph Pulitzer.

General Eisenhower's attractive personality, and his natural flair for good organisation, should serve Columbia well.



THIS ENGLAND

Polperro, the quaint little fishing harbour in Cornwall

Canada's Coast to Coast Highway

THIS summer the dream of many Canadian road-makers comes true. Anyone on holiday in the Dominion can now motor from coast to coast on an all-Canada road of 4200 miles.

Before the war a motorist wishing to journey across Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific shore had to ship his car across the Great Lakes, or even dip down into the United States—all because there was a roadless stretch in the wilds of northern Ontario. This gap has now been closed—mainly because war-time defence measures made it necessary.

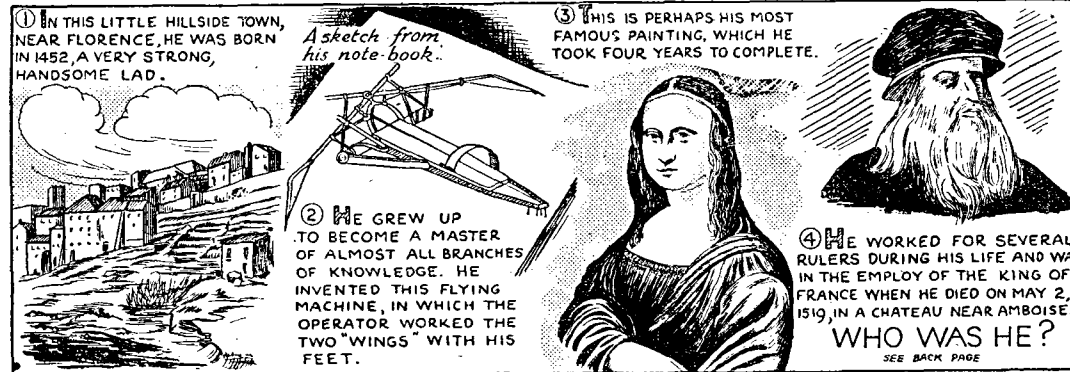
Some 7000 years ago this section of Canada's great road was in the Ice Age. Excavators found evidences of this only ten feet below the surface. Much of the road is laid on the remains of a glacial lake where the rotten vegetation has been scooped away. Beneath the soil a great deposit of muskeg was found, and when this had been removed rock and gravel to a depth of four to ten feet were piled on to the clay to make a solid road-bed.

Parts of this highway were well tested during the war, and it has been shown that frost does not make the road heave and become impassable in spring-time. It is kept free of snow in winter in spite of the fact that it passes through some of the loneliest parts of Ontario. On a 150-mile stretch there are as yet no petrol stations and no hotel accommodation. Ex-soldiers, however, are being encouraged to settle along the road with combination garage and tourist cabin camps.

This last completed section of the Trans-Canada Highway runs roughly from North Bay, Ontario, to Fort William, Ontario, crossing far north of Lake Superior, and linking with civilisation small gold-mining and lumbering communities often 50 miles apart. With the closing of the Ontario gap the motorist is indeed a happy traveller.

WHO WAS HE?

Picture Story of a Great Artist



GREEK ART IN MINIATURE

GLISTENING in a case in the British Museum are long and lovely rows of coins in use 500 years before Christ. They have come into the possession of the Museum through the generosity of Mrs Lloyd of Cambridge, whose husband and daughter years ago began to hunt in Italy for coins of the Greek era.

Every year Dr Lloyd and Miss Lloyd made their way to the remote villages of southern Italy and Sicily. Carrying small boxes stuffed with cotton wool, hand forks and sieves, they visited the sites and ruins of the temples and other buildings of the ancient Greek colonists, poking into dust heaps and sifting through rubble. Every year they found small, delicately engraven

coins covered with the grime and dirt of 2500 years.

Some of the loveliest and most delicate examples of Greek art are preserved on these coins.



Hunters, charioteers, birds, fishes, gods, picturesque events, are all there recorded. Instead of one head or device appearing monotonously on every coin there is sparkling variety. We show both sides of the beautiful ten-drachma piece of 479 B.C. One side shows in clear outline a

Greek charioteer driving a team of horses at full speed. This beautiful but minute picture is a valuable subject for artists and scholars who want to know exactly what a charioteer looked like long years before the Roman chariots began to roll through the arenas of the Eternal City.

The British Museum regards Mrs Lloyd's gift in memory of her husband as the most notable coin collection the Museum has received since 1828. Some of these lovely coins are as large as a florin or half-crown piece, and some as small as a three-penny piece. Looking at them, a visitor sees laid out before him the glory and wonder of a whole civilisation, as it throve some five centuries before Christ walked the earth.

The Piano's Tale of Battle

THE recent meetings at Prague of the General Council of the World Federation of Trade Unions was a success, bringing together into friendly understanding representatives of Russia and her political allies, and, on the other hand, spokesmen of the English-speaking nations.

Reading of the language difficulties of the many delegates of different tongues we are reminded of something to which, 190 years ago, Prague gave its name; something in the language that all civilised peoples understand—music.

In 1757, during the Seven Years' War, a great battle was fought outside Prague, and Franz Koczwara, a native of the city, later composed a military piece for piano, violin, and cello, which he called *The Battle of Prague*. Into the English versions of the piece we inserted our own National Anthem, while it is said that other nations substituted theirs. In each case the piece was followed by the famous old drum-call, *Go to bed, Tom*.

As a pianoforte solo, *The Battle of Prague* enjoyed a century of immense popularity in English homes. Every girl

who could, played it to her spellbound family; every boy who could crash through it, crashed. Few people apart from those learned in history had the faintest idea what cause *The Battle of Prague* actually represented; nevertheless, for three or four generations the mysterious conflict thus musically commemorated was, perhaps, the most famous of all mankind's battles. Its music was eloquent, whereas many speakers at the recent international Conference were dumb without the interpreters' aid.

The Guides' Great Week

THE greatest event of the year for our Guides begins on Saturday, when the Scout and Guide International Folk Dance Festival and Rally opens. The dancers are mixed teams of Scouts and Guides between 14 and 20 years of age, from Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Holland, Norway, Switzerland, and the United States.

Although there are Scouts in the teams, this Festival is essentially a Guides' occasion—the Scouts have their Jamboree.

The teams are camping at Hampton Court with British Queen's Guides. The Queen's Guide award was started in 1946, and its holders have to attain a very high standard.

On Saturday there will be camp-fire items and dancing at Hampton Court Paddock.

In London, at 3.30 p.m. on Sunday, July 13, this host of British Guides, together with the dance teams, will march to the music of the Scots Guards' band past Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret. The route is from the Horse Guards Parade down the Mall. Afterwards the Guides will attend services at Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral, and Westminster Chapel.

Next day, at 12 noon, there will be open-air singing and dancing in the Cockpit, Hyde Park, where Lady Baden-Powell, the World Chief Guide, will speak. If it is a wet day this will take place in the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea.

On Wednesday, July 16, at 6.30 p.m., there is to be a folk-dancing performance for Guides only at the People's Palace, Mile End Road. On Thursday, at 11.30 a.m., the International Handcraft Exhibition will be opened by Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, at the Central Hall, Westminster, where at 7 p.m. there will be a Folk Dance performance (admission by ticket only), and also on Saturday, July 19, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

We hope the sun will shine on this splendid week of International Guiding.

LORNA DOONE—R. D. Blackmore's Famous Romance of Exmoor, Told in Pictures



John Ridd sent the women to bed and went to keep watch in the rickyard. But he dozed, and Lorna came to warn him that now the moon was up the Doones would come. There would not be many, she said, because their houses in Doone Valley must be flooded by melting snow, and some would, therefore be busy at home. Then Gwenny arrived and said ten Doones were coming.



John sent her and Lorna to rouse Jeremy and his men. He watched the Doones ride to his barn as if they owned it and put their horses inside. "Fire their ricks, first," said Carver. "Then cut their throats—all except Lorna's, she belongs to me." Concealed by the rick, John aimed at Carver. But he couldn't fire, for he had never flung him in the mud. Cursing, Carver taken human life before.



He waited till two Doones approached and then to fire the rick. He broke the arm of one with his club. He seized the other and broke his collarbone. Then Jeremy's men fired and the Doones fell or fled—except Carver. John picked him up and flung him in the mud. Cursing, Carver got up and ran off.



The Doones had suffered their first defeat since beginning their lawless career on Exmoor. In the following weeks Jeremy prepared to attack the Doone Valley. The Devon and Somerset trained bands (Militia) were to take part. But when the Somerset men arrived they were an undisciplined lot. They had sent their officers home!

Can these yokels beat the ruthless Doones? See next week's instalment

The Approach of Mars

THE planet Mars is now coming into view from regions far beyond the Sun; and after his long absence may be found in the eastern sky before sunrise.

Mars now rises about two hours before the Sun in the north-east and then veers round to east, but as he continues to rise earlier he will become better placed for observation and also brighter. In the early morning of July 14 the Moon will appear some way to the right of Mars, but by the next morning, July 15,



Mars and Aldebaran.
See below

the Moon will appear to have almost reached him and will seem to be but little more than her own width away. About an hour before sunrise (say, about 5 a.m., B.D.S.T.) will be the best for observation, for then Mars will appear just below and to the right of the lunar crescent, shining like a first-magnitude star.

Though appearing so close together an immense distance separates them, for while the Moon will be only about 220,000 miles distant and almost at her nearest to us, Mars will be about 190 million miles away. In two months time, however, he will be some 50 million miles nearer to us and appear much larger.

His Ever-Changing Face

Were Mars as near to us as the Moon is, he would appear almost twice her width, for the diameter of Mars is 4200 miles, and that of the Moon is 2160 miles. There would, however, be another great difference in their appearance, for the details of the Moon's face remain always the same, while those on Mars are continually changing, because he rotates once in every 24 hours, 37 minutes, and 23 seconds. The surface features are also subject to change according to the seasons on Mars. Just now it is Winter in his Northern hemisphere, and, of course, Summer in his Southern hemisphere, but Mars is so far away that very little detail can be seen. He will not reach his nearest to us until February 1948, when he will appear as bright as Jupiter does now, but will be of a reddish hue.

Immediately to the south of Mars may be seen at the present time a star appearing rather like him in tint and about as bright. This is Aldebaran, a star that will provide a ready means for identifying Mars when the Moon has gone. The present position of Mars relative to Aldebaran is shown on the accompanying star-map, but Mars is travelling quickly eastward in the direction of the arrow, which shows by its length the extent of his motion between July 12 and 26.

After July 26 it should be easy to follow Mars, for he will gradually become more prominent in the morning sky. Though appearing so similar to Mars, Aldebaran is actually a giant sun with a diameter nearly 40 times greater than that of our own Sun, but at a distance 2,785,000 times greater. So Aldebaran is now about 1,400,000 times farther away than is Mars. We may thus obtain some idea of relative distances.

G. F. M.

A DREAM COMES TRUE

AN art-collector's ambition of nearly 150 years ago has been partly realised this summer in the heart of London.

It was the dream of Noel Desenfans, a native of Douai, to found a national gallery of art in London with a magnificent collection of pictures that King Stanislaus of Poland had asked him to collect for a national gallery for Poland. With the pictures left on his hands after the fall of Stanislaus in 1798, Desenfans, now a British citizen, resolved to create a national gallery of art in Britain, where as yet none existed.

It was not to be; his proposal was unheeded, so he bequeathed his beloved pictures to his friends, Sir Peter and Lady Bourgeois, who in turn gave them to Dulwich Art Gallery, where, in a mausoleum built for their reception, the three benefactors slept until disturbed by the flying bomb that wrecked the Dulwich gallery.

Today, of the Desenfans pictures, which include world-

famous masterpieces, 54 are on exhibition for a few weeks, not in the national gallery of Desenfans's ambition, but in the actual National Gallery that rose in Trafalgar Square 15 years after the opening of Dulwich, first of public art galleries in our land. There, as Desenfans would surely have wished, are such magnificent paintings as Philip the Fourth of Spain by Velasquez, Vandyck's Samson and Delilah, Murillo's Flower Girl, Rembrandt's Girl at a Window, and Rubens's Duchess of Buckingham. There, too, among a group of delightful Gainsboroughs added later to the Dulwich gallery, is the famous painting of Mrs Moodey, returning with her two little girls from a woodland walk.

How delighted Desenfans would have been at even this partial realisation of his ambition that remained only a dream!

ALL ROADS LEAD TO OSLO

NEARLY every ship and plane coming to British ports just now carries young people on the way to the great world conference of Christian youth in Oslo.

This conference which opens on July 22 in Norway's capital is the successor to one which met on the eve of the war in Amsterdam. Oslo now takes up the tale of Christian friendship which the war disrupted. More than 1500 young people under 30, two-thirds of whom are under 25, will confer together for ten days on the theme "Jesus Christ is Lord."

These great gatherings of youth come from 50 nations. They come from the old-established churches of Europe; from the younger churches of Africa, India, China, Malaya, and Madagascar; from the countries of the Middle East where Christianity first took root, and from the American continent where it has attained a new life and vigour.

Transport difficulties have been

overcome in various ways. When it was made known that the American delegation was finding difficulty in obtaining sufficient places on the overcrowded Atlantic services, a military transport, the Marine Jumper, was made available. The 39 Chinese representatives are using a special aeroplane which Lutheran missions employ for the quick transport of their missionaries in Asia. Twenty-five Indian delegates and six leaders were due to arrive in England last week. Australian and New Zealand delegates embarked in May; the main Indonesian delegation left Batavia on May 15, and others will travel by commercial plane, as will delegates from South America and Madagascar. In Oslo there will be 15 young people from Germany and 13 from Japan.

Over £20,000 has been collected to help this representative gathering of youth to meet, and from it are expected to come the Christian leaders of the next generation.

A Thousand Miles For Ten Shillings

Two young kilted cadets of Dundee, Henry Mitchell and William Whannel, recently travelled from their home town to London and back again at a cost of less than 10s each. The journey, over 1000 miles, was a final training test set by the 1st Dundee Cadet Battalion, Black Watch.

With a ten-shilling note and a sealed envelope in their pockets, the two cadets set off at 4.30 on a Saturday afternoon. Almost immediately they were given a lift in a private car to Perth. Thereafter they hitch-hiked by lorry and car over the Border hills and down through England. In the early hours of Monday morning a cheerful lorry-driver on his way to London docks set them down in the capital and they made their way on foot to their destination, Wellington Barracks. So far they had each spent 4s 5d—all on food.

After reporting, they opened their sealed envelopes. Inside they found instructions to obtain the signatures of Viscount Montgomery, the Director-General of

the Territorial Army, a famous radio artist, a BBC announcer at work, and two of the oldest Chelsea Pensioners.

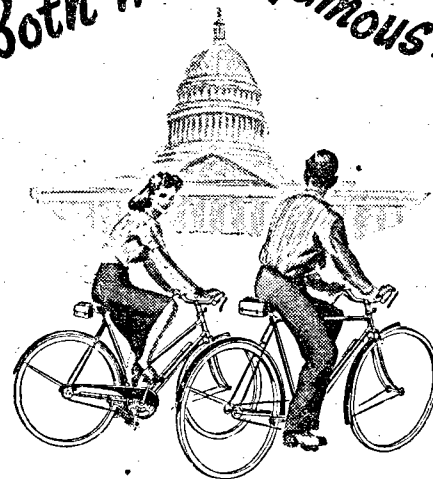
The victor of Alamein and the Director-General were not in London, but the signatures of their deputies were obtained in their stead, and when the two lads had followed out their instructions they were entertained for the evening by one of their officers in London. On the following morning they started off on the long road back to Bonnie Dundee.

NEW ZOO

THE new Glasgow Zoo will be opened on July 9 by the Marchioness of Bute. Only members and guests will be present, but the zoo will be open to the public at 2 p.m. It will be open every day of the week from then, but on Sunday mornings, until 1 p.m., only members will be admitted.

Among the latest arrivals there are a pair of huskies—a dog called Leader from Canada, and his mate, a half-wolf husky which has been sent from Whipsnade.

Both World-famous...



THESE two American cyclists are passing by the Capitol at Washington, U.S.A.—on cycles manufactured by Hercules in England.

Precision-built, slim and elegant, Hercules-made cycles are very popular with American cyclists. They, like you, want a well-made easy running cycle that is an eye-catcher on any road.

Hercules

The Finest Bicycle Built To-day

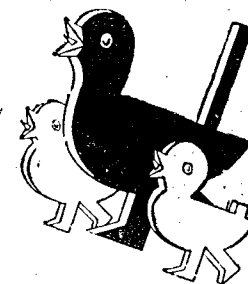
THE HERCULES CYCLE & MOTOR CO. LTD.,
ASTON · BIRMINGHAM

H/15E

BIRD'S CUSTARD

Best known -

best liked



BIRD'S CUSTARD AND JELLIES

THE BRAN TUB

SUSPENSE

EVERY night, as he prepared for bed in his hotel room, Mr James would drop his shoes on to the floor with a thud.

An old lady in the room below complaining that she was wakened by the noise, Mr James apologised. The very same night, however, he dropped his shoe, as usual; then, remembering, he placed the other down carefully.

Ten minutes later the maid brought a message from the old lady. It read: "Would you please drop the other shoe? I am waiting to go to sleep."

OUR LANGUAGE

Inspired by the lines on "Our Language" in the C N for June 28, a reader at Hammersmith sends us this amusing verse.

WHEN I was at cowledge
It came to my knollege
That if I could scrough
Out the time to go threw
With my uttermost fourse
A very long corce
Of spelling, I mite
In time come to wright
Without any mistache,
But it made my head ake,
So I soon gave it ough
With a violent hiccup
And went off to bead
With a pain in my hed.

JULY

WHO'S this lazy, dawdling lass,
Handsome, proud, and scornful?

Will she never, never pass,
Yawning, sullen, mournful?
I should run away and fly,
If her name were not July.

BEDTIME CORNER

A Surprising Ride

JANE was miserable. It was the day of the village out-
ing and she could not go. She
had had chicken-pox and she
could not play with other
children for a few more days.
They were all enjoying them-
selves by the sea, while she
was sitting on the farm gate,
staring down the lane, a
miserable and lonely little girl.

Then along the lane came
a man leading— Was it
an elephant? Jane could
hardly believe it, but it was
an elephant. She jumped
down.

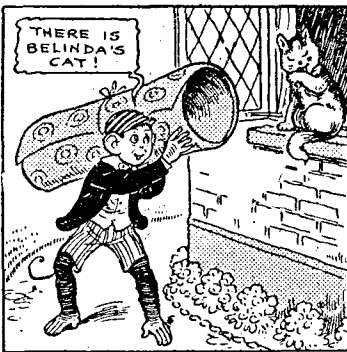
"Don't run away," called the
man. "He won't hurt you."

"I know," said Jane, "but
I've had chicken-pox. That's
why I couldn't go to the sea."

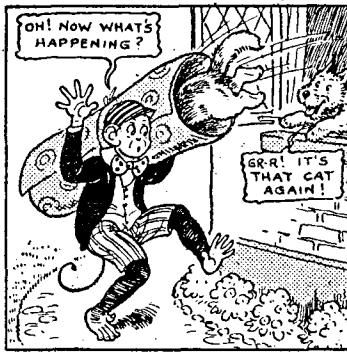
"Dear, dear!" said he, with
twinkling eyes. "And what
would you have been doing at
the sea?"

"Donkey-rides and building
castles and paddling," said
Jane.

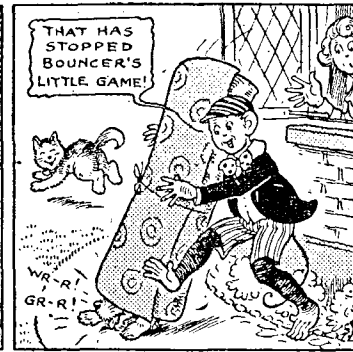
"Well, I haven't a donkey,
so how about a ride on an
elephant." The man looked
at Mummy, who had just
come out of the house, and
she nodded her assent. He
lifted Jane on to the huge
back, where she felt very small.
The man told her they
belonged to a circus, and they
had to walk from town to
town, because the elephant
was too heavy to ride in the



Belinda's cat sat browsing in the sun as Jacko passed, carrying a carpet.



But not for long—as Bouncer came leaping on to the window sill.



"Well bagged, sir," chuckled Jacko as he neatly brought the carpet down.

Jacko the Carpet Bagger

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

The Stately Foxgloves. On a low bank in the coppice, a clump of reddish-purple foxgloves reared their stately spires.

"How lovely!" exclaimed Ann. "Shall we pick some?"

"No!" replied Don, her brother. "They're poisonous."

"They can't be!" objected Ann. "Foxgloves are used for medicine."

"All right, Miss Knowall," jeered Don; "here comes Farmer Gray. He'll jolly well tell you they are poisonous."

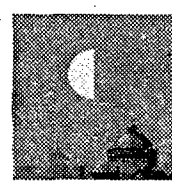
"Don't wrangle, children," chuckled the farmer. "It happens you are both right. Foxgloves are poisonous to cattle, but usually the animals display intelligence and leave them alone. Digitalis is a valuable drug made from foxglove leaves. It is used for heart diseases."

Who Was He?

THE man in the picture-story on Page 6 was Leonardo da Vinci.

Other Worlds

IN the evening Jupiter is in the south-west. In the morn-



ing Venus is low in the south-east, and Mars is in the east. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 7 a m on Friday, July 11.

The Junior

A QUACK was selling a patent medicine which he claimed would make men live to a great age.

"Look at me," he shouted, " hale and hearty, and yet I'm over 130 years old."

A listener turned to the salesman's assistant.

"Is he really as old as that?" he asked.

"I don't really know," came the reply. "I've only been working for him for 95 years."

Children's Hour

BBC Programmes from Wednesday, July 9, to Tuesday, July 15

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Nursery Sing-song; Adam Was a Gardener—a talk.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Jimmie and the Bees; Hebridean Songs; The Silver Flame. Welsh, 5.30 The Adventure of David (4); Choir of Cae Top School, Bangor. Northern, 5.0 Some young artists; News from Chester Zoo.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Biffer (Part 1); She Shall Have Music (Part 1).

SATURDAY, 5.0 The Two-faced Dragon—a story. 5.30 Eton v Harrow cricket match. Midland, 5.0 Midland Magazine; Digby by Moonlight—a talk. Scottish, 5.30 Music and a talk. Northern, 5.0 Spelling Bee; Songs; On Board, Off Watch—a talk.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Captain—a story; Norwich Girls' High School Choir. 5.40 Junior Red Cross. Scottish, 5.0 Negro Spirituals; Girls' Choir from Lawside Academy, Dundee; John Gilpin; Music by Thomas Dunhill.

MONDAY, 5.0 The Flippits—a story; Vocal and Piano Duets; Scout and Guide International Folk Dance Festival and Rally. 5.40 Going to the Pictures. Scottish, 5.0 Scottish Zoo Man; Young Artists. 5.40 The Tail of the Bank—a talk.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Getting Ready For the Holidays; Two Stories. N. Ireland, 5.0 The Gentle Mountain (Part 2); Peter Comes in From the Farm; Songs by Alex Rogers. Scottish, 5.0 Your Own Ideas. 5.15 Elspeth in Monsterland. West, 5.0 Sports—Tennis—a talk.

THE HUNTER

A MINER who came from Red-ruth
Chanced to fall down a well in his youth.
When asked why he fell,
He said, "I can't tell—
I suppose I was looking for Truth!"

Tongue Twister

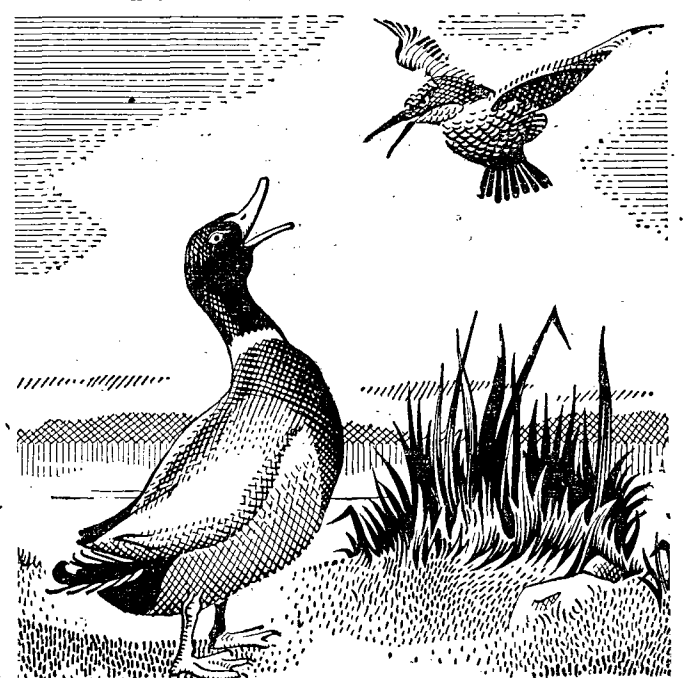
POOR Polly Prim paused, perplexed. Pondered Polly, perhaps pussies purr permanently.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Hidden Cathedrals
Chester, Wells,
Ripon, Ely, Hereford,
Carlisle.

V	A	N	A	D	M	I	T
4	C	O	R	N	A	D	O
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U	S	A	N	O	T	E	D
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ÆSOP-TO-DATE



THE KINGFISHER AND THE DUCK

A duck was watching a Kingfisher hovering over a stream. "Why," he asked, "do you wait so long before diving after your prey? This river is full of little fish. Aren't they good enough for you?" "No, indeed," answered the Kingfisher. "I am prepared to wait until I am rewarded by seeing something worth my while. As for these little fish, they will keep. And anyway, they are getting bigger all the time."

To-day's Moral to this Savings Fable is:

Little sums of money put into Savings regularly soon grow up into a nice big amount. Then, when you see something worth your while in the shops, your waiting will bring this reward: you'll have enough money to buy it!

NATIONAL SAVINGS STAMPS

Issued by the National Savings Committee